MoUs under Rural Business Hubs initiative

1716. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the Rural Business Hubs initiative, Government have facilitated of signing about 50 MoUs between private companies and Panchayati Raj institutions;

(b) if so, how many MoUs have been entered into between the Panchayati Raj institutions in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the private companies;

(c) the details of MoUs entered in (b) above;

(d) whether any MoUs have been entered into with foreign Multinational Companies in areas like fruit processing, dairying, handicrafts and handlooms, etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No MoUs has been signed yet between Panchayat Raj Institutions in the State of Andhra Pradesh and the private companies.

(c) Does not arise;

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Timely elections to Panchayats and Municipalities

1717. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has laid down general guidelines for holding timely elections to Panchayats and Municipalities; and

(b) if so, the details and action proposed to be taken to comply with/ implement the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKARAIYAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement on Kishansing Tomar, Vs. Municipal Corporation of the city of Ahmedabad and others in the case of civil appeal 5756 of 2005 regarding Municipalities/Panchayats elections have ordered that elections to Panchayats or municipalities should be held within the time-frame mandated in the Constitution.If the State Election Commission feels that it is not receiving cooperation from the State Government concerned in discharging its Constitutional

obligations, it can approach the High Court in the first instance and thereafter the Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus directing the State Government concerned to provide all necessary cooperation and assistance to the State Election Commission so that it can fulfill its Constitutional mandate. The judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court has been circulated to the Panchayati Raj Secretaries of all State Governments.

Non-allotment of services to disabled candidates

1718. SHRI SANJAY RAUT:
SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that UPSC has not allotted any service to three disabled candidates despite their successful qualifying the Civil Services Examination;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the reasons for not allotting any service to these successful candidates;

(c) whether it is also a fact that disability certificates are repeatedly challenged while giving benefits under disabled quota; and

(d) if so, the cases that have come up in this context and the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) The Union Public Service Commission recommends candidates on the basis of Civil Services examination. Service allocation is done by the Department of Personnel and Training on the basis of rank, preference, medical status, eligibility of the candidate and vacancy position in the relevant category. All the 12 disabled candidates recommended by the UPSC for Civil Services Examination, 2005 are being allocated one service or the other.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.